

Table 1. Historical Highlights: 2012 and Earlier Census Years

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text.]

All farms	2012	2007	2002	1997	Not adjusted for coverage			
					1997	1992	1987	1982
Farms number	42,257	47,846	49,311	49,343	40,334	40,759	43,552	49,630
Land in farms acres	9,620,836	10,150,539	10,744,239	11,262,938	10,671,246	10,025,581	10,744,718	12,291,885
Average size of farm acres	228	212	218	228	265	246	247	248
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars	702,282	661,201	457,427	362,690	392,577	280,562	226,217	225,092
Average per acre dollars	3,085	3,117	2,112	1,550	1,505	1,131	920	929
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ \$1,000	3,935,960	3,681,670	2,416,555	2,073,886	1,791,247	1,421,195	1,409,250	1,535,877
Average per farm dollars	93,146	76,948	51,847	42,061	44,392	34,904	32,477	31,013
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	3,025	3,504	3,569	3,442	2,399	2,859	2,875	3,189
10 to 49 acres	13,834	16,243	15,759	14,169	10,255	10,443	10,953	12,179
50 to 179 acres	14,671	16,244	17,160	18,126	14,677	14,470	15,602	18,112
180 to 499 acres	6,334	7,432	7,962	8,518	7,910	7,987	8,868	10,197
500 to 999 acres	2,284	2,470	2,735	2,791	2,795	2,972	3,197	3,657
1,000 to 1,999 acres	1,375	1,253	1,394	1,526	1,543	1,407	1,453	1,633
2,000 acres or more	734	700	732	771	755	621	604	663
Total cropland farms	28,360	31,924	34,660	37,503	32,816	34,600	37,689	43,390
..... acres	4,190,918	4,478,168	4,676,567	5,572,570	5,370,844	5,475,712	5,780,330	6,531,234
Harvested cropland farms	22,347	23,179	24,424	27,810	25,082	27,177	30,301	35,650
..... acres	3,609,788	3,390,437	3,245,784	3,894,737	3,762,559	3,332,666	3,298,268	4,761,260
Irrigated land farms	5,230	5,716	5,369	4,752	4,372	4,701	4,985	4,443
..... acres	1,125,355	1,017,773	870,810	773,066	748,520	724,792	640,256	575,306
Market value of agricultural products sold (see text) \$1,000	9,255,125	7,112,866	4,911,752	5,182,676	4,992,918	3,521,217	2,814,592	2,767,679
Average per farm dollars	219,020	148,662	99,608	105,034	123,789	86,391	64,626	55,766
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops \$1,000	3,670,455	2,142,270	1,579,596	1,995,404	1,920,598	1,428,964	1,005,664	1,180,988
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000	5,584,670	4,970,596	3,332,156	3,187,272	3,072,320	2,092,253	1,808,928	1,586,691
Farms by value of sales ² :								
Less than \$2,500	18,372	23,391	23,986	19,552	13,731	12,070	13,176	15,693
\$2,500 to \$4,999	3,951	4,450	5,046	6,758	5,503	5,983	6,460	6,740
\$5,000 to \$9,999	4,139	4,527	5,131	6,053	5,154	5,402	5,805	5,843
\$10,000 to \$24,999	4,704	4,906	4,878	5,052	4,694	5,200	5,320	5,868
\$25,000 to \$49,999	2,232	2,308	2,406	2,369	2,174	2,659	3,012	3,788
\$50,000 to \$99,999	1,552	1,491	1,592	2,088	1,908	2,397	2,883	3,947
\$100,000 to \$499,999	2,144	3,414	3,801	4,693	4,472	5,354	5,961	7,002
\$500,000 or more	5,163	3,359	2,471	2,778	2,698	1,694	935	717
Farms by legal status for tax purposes (see text):								
Family or individual	36,863	41,703	45,050	43,523	35,206	35,985	38,806	44,207
Partnership	2,535	3,850	2,490	3,560	3,105	3,173	3,382	4,170
Corporation	2,410	1,909	1,484	1,891	1,706	1,297	1,106	954
Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc	449	384	287	369	317	304	258	299
Principal operator by days of work off farm ³ :								
None	17,798	17,549	22,903	17,604	15,060	15,563	15,835	17,088
Any	24,459	30,297	26,408	27,837	21,902	21,843	25,029	27,730
200 days or more	16,199	19,087	19,606	21,016	16,295	16,051	18,426	20,149
Principal operator by primary occupation:								
Farming	19,858	20,106	25,076	19,860	17,523	18,817	19,449	23,075
Other	22,399	27,740	24,235	29,483	22,811	21,942	24,103	26,555
Average age of principal operator years	59.9	57.8	56.5	55.6	55.9	55.0	53.2	51.7
Total farm production expenses ¹ \$1,000	7,488,510	5,982,253	3,845,512	4,321,340	3,840,117	2,867,358	2,338,551	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased or leased \$1,000	927,465	871,341	372,108	434,150	396,933	317,816	307,677	251,478
Feed purchased \$1,000	2,913,851	2,121,379	1,365,162	1,630,861	1,427,778	909,360	755,609	660,526
Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners purchased ^{4 5} \$1,000	499,665	353,104	190,338	244,907	219,398	191,665	156,412	199,916
Gasoline, fuels, and oils purchased \$1,000	346,738	301,942	149,582	154,820	136,653	125,189	102,026	157,335
Hired farm labor \$1,000	447,136	361,419	326,621	315,101	285,883	252,721	209,647	149,524
Interest expense ⁶ \$1,000	228,123	225,086	193,171	193,283	170,943	147,611	130,645	193,325
Chemicals purchased ⁴ \$1,000	398,050	250,881	197,468	223,875	196,778	148,906	108,992	111,558
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory farms	17,188	20,647	24,554	26,938	21,874	23,339	25,349	30,440
..... number	1,033,717	1,117,087	1,272,291	1,289,428	1,244,489	1,258,062	1,266,679	1,578,250
Beef cows farms	15,175	17,721	21,576	23,047	19,180	20,549	21,952	25,658
..... number	469,942	554,099	629,127	624,891	613,731	599,899	606,750	690,184
Milk cows farms	348	639	841	1,188	984	1,168	1,475	2,623
..... number	79,492	77,193	85,075	100,306	98,931	102,001	97,763	130,542
Cattle and calves sold farms	13,982	16,261	18,770	24,782	21,015	22,162	24,604	28,180
..... number	537,089	595,273	565,767	642,462	613,950	612,588	681,238	729,924
Hogs and pigs inventory farms	866	1,111	1,148	2,280	1,764	3,844	5,805	8,911
..... number	153,733	263,471	347,816	539,913	514,029	1,000,813	1,060,377	1,317,396
Hogs and pigs sold farms	600	830	995	1,909	1,561	3,745	5,634	8,374
..... number	696,608	942,400	1,179,137	1,075,860	1,030,187	1,865,702	1,869,236	2,119,068

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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Table 1. Historical Highlights: 2012 and Earlier Census Years (continued)

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text.]

All farms	2012	2007	2002	1997	Not adjusted for coverage			
					1997	1992	1987	1982
Livestock and poultry: - Con.								
Layers inventory (see text) farms	3,483	2,870	1,274	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
number	17,445,067	19,273,181	20,022,117	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms	2,743	2,265	2,758	2,478	2,245	2,407	2,815	3,096
number	1,369,162,943	1,398,912,031	1,288,543,081	1,069,285,689	1,017,501,305	749,018,187	609,503,009	521,508,557
Selected crops harvested:								
Corn for grain farms	2,619	3,114	3,070	5,579	5,196	7,896	10,561	13,793
acres	311,125	449,007	252,176	411,608	404,268	647,833	548,498	788,306
bushels	52,451,141	54,137,330	26,720,244	41,144,090	40,568,303	60,513,790	43,332,343	60,031,978
Corn for silage or greenchop farms	238	284	282	351	330	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	31,216	38,657	30,847	32,803	32,304	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
tons	653,545	676,293	541,116	511,356	503,805	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Wheat for grain, all farms	1,480	1,332	1,305	2,155	2,115	2,332	4,704	7,874
acres	227,087	228,959	185,301	300,860	299,188	292,362	416,997	995,962
bushels	10,870,821	9,206,001	7,664,451	12,768,987	12,691,834	12,371,069	13,269,742	31,864,435
Winter wheat for grain farms	1,480	1,332	1,305	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	227,087	228,959	185,301	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	10,870,821	9,206,001	7,664,451	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Oats for grain farms	316	476	573	570	554	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	20,087	28,770	23,056	22,105	22,341	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	992,230	1,535,663	1,287,164	1,211,952	1,243,367	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Barley for grain farms	22	13	13	28	28	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	646	537	(D)	1,583	1,504	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	32,210	30,326	19,437	88,092	81,992	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for grain farms	371	428	314	361	360	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	39,082	44,694	25,904	27,672	27,786	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
bushels	1,924,241	1,935,793	1,019,355	1,311,440	1,314,386	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for silage or greenchop farms	106	106	135	42	43	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	14,613	9,982	12,541	3,904	3,919	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
tons	272,150	119,277	151,413	37,566	37,866	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Soybeans for beans farms	1,470	1,617	1,108	2,921	2,864	4,193	6,036	12,683
acres	215,133	280,220	136,138	349,098	351,359	513,781	759,582	2,023,705
bushels	7,808,576	7,970,113	3,083,878	7,047,160	7,078,444	14,391,870	16,725,741	51,993,159
Cotton, all farms	2,616	2,577	3,216	4,410	4,188	2,015	1,733	770
acres	1,279,400	996,427	1,267,150	1,464,105	1,367,620	431,625	231,635	131,300
bales	2,719,600	1,628,260	1,564,995	1,918,779	1,764,127	668,950	286,188	192,496
Tobacco farms	102	224	822	1,256	1,180	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	9,882	17,989	25,060	42,795	41,083	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
pounds	22,710,058	39,810,076	49,998,195	89,318,476	85,789,611	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop (see text) farms								
acres	13,404	14,556	14,627	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
tons, dry	602,994	663,750	614,719	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sunflower seed, all farms	1,486,225	1,380,403	1,465,735	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	22	35	45	17	15	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
pounds	1,301	2,150	553	(D)	273	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Peanuts for nuts farms	1,271,852	(D)	518,969	(D)	238,114	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	2,833	2,762	3,290	4,850	4,695	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
pounds	731,946	518,719	467,712	520,283	511,954	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) ⁷ farms	3,236,937,533	1,634,837,229	1,173,877,160	1,306,964,722	1,284,532,488	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	1,562	1,445	1,668	2,068	1,797	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Potatoes farms	99,492	128,720	149,556	123,082	118,806	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	323	122	62	70	61	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sweet potatoes farms	3,634	380	948	1,068	1,054	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	76	69	90	98	87	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Land in orchards farms	934	573	634	712	665	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
acres	3,353	3,745	4,273	4,199	3,541	4,146	4,137	4,503
	139,111	129,921	145,602	160,049	155,984	153,247	149,014	145,724

¹ Data for 2002 and prior years are based on a sample of farms.
² Data for 1982 exclude abnormal farms.
³ Data for 1997 and prior years do not include imputation for item nonresponse.
⁴ Data for 1982 exclude cost of custom applications.
⁵ Data for 1997 and prior years exclude cost of lime and manure.
⁶ Data for 1982 do not include imputation for item nonresponse.
⁷ Data for 2002 and prior years exclude potatoes, sweet potatoes, and ginseng.